

April 13, 2015

## VIA Rumrill.nancy@epa.gov

U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9
Drinking Water Protection Section, Mail Code WTR-3-2
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, California 94105

Attention: Nancy Rumrill

Re: Class III Underground Injection Control (UIC) Area Permit

Florence Copper, Inc.

## Ms. Rumrill:

Excelsior Mining is pleased to submit this letter in support of the Underground Injection Control Permit (UIC) for Florence Copper, Inc.'s Production Test Facility (PTF) in Pinal County, Arizona. The environmental benefits of this mining method support the EPA's decision to issue the UIC permit for the PTF well field. The technical documentation supports the determination that these activities will be protective of nearby underground sources of drinking water. Modern in-situ copper recovery (ISCR) practices and technologies are proven to fully protect the integrity and quality of groundwater resources when those practices and technologies are properly implemented.

The ability to extract valuable resources such as copper, with minimal surface impacts and legacy issues, will be a significant benefit to the local community(s) and the mining industry. At the end of mining the land surface will be minimally impacted and available for a combination of land uses.

Florence Copper Inc. has followed the prescribed measures to provide the EPA with the required technical support for the proposed project, as well as engaged the community and stakeholders in the process. They have demonstrated a determination to be a good neighbor.

Thank you for your consideration and the opportunity to comment on this permit.

Phone: 602-559-5579

Toll Free: 1-844-206-3713

Yours very truly,

Stephen Twyerould President & CEO

Rebecca A. Sawyer VP Sustainability

**EXCELSIOR MINING CORP.**